

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 26, 28, 30, 33, 35 and 36. The status of the claims is as follows:

1-12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) A notification apparatus, comprising:
means for determining a failure has occurred in a device and a use of the failed device is prohibited, the determination of the failure being made independent of a device control unit that performs control over the failed device;

a notification device for instructing the device control unit that performs control over the failed device to access the failed device when the means for determining determines that the failure has occurred in the failed device;

wherein the device control unit recognizes the prohibition of use of the failed device if the device control unit is unable to access the failed device.

14. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said notification device includes a pseudo-interrupt issuance device making the device control unit access the failed device by issuing a pseudo-interrupt to the device control unit and calling up an interrupt process of the device control unit.

15. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said notification device includes an access instruction issuance device making the device control unit access the failed device by issuing an access instruction to the device control unit and calling up an access process of the device control unit.

16. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising a notification judgment device judging whether the device control unit should be notified of the prohibition of use of the failed device.

17. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said notification judgment device includes a device judging whether a device control unit should be notified of a prohibition of use of a failed device for each device group included in the system.

18. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said notification judgment device includes a device judging whether a device control unit should be notified of a prohibition of use of a failed device for each device control unit that performs control over a device included in the system.

19. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said notification judgment device includes a device judging whether a device control unit

should be notified of a prohibition of use of a failed device for each device included in the system.

20. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said notification judgment device includes a setting device setting information about whether the device control unit should be notified of the prohibition of use of the failed device, and outputs a judgment result corresponding to the set information.

21. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said setting device includes a device setting the information for each device group included in the system.

22. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said setting device includes a device setting the information for each device control unit that performs control over a device included in the system.

23. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said setting device includes a device setting the information for each device included in the system.

24. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising a confirmation device checking whether another device in the system is affected by the failed device, said system prohibiting use of a device affected by the failed device and said notification judgment device judging whether a device control unit that performs control over the affected device should be notified of the prohibition of use of the affected device.

25. (Original) The notification apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising a confirmation device checking whether another device in the system is affected by the failed device.

26. (Currently Amended) A notification apparatus, comprising:
a first system including a confirmation device for determining, when a failure occurs in a device in the first system and use of the failed device is prohibited, whether use of any other devices in the first system should be prohibited as a result of the failed device,
a notification device for changing a state of resetting the failed device and any other devices that are determined to be prohibited from use, and notifying a second system, external to the first system, of the prohibition of use reset of the failed device and the other devices in the first system;

wherein said second system is notified of the prohibition of use of the failed device and the other devices in the first system when said notification of said reset is received from said notification device.

27. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium on which a program is recorded, said program comprising:

determining a failure has occurred in a device and a use of the failed device is prohibited, the determination of the failure being made independent of a device control unit that performs control over the failed device;

enabling a computer to instruct the device control unit that performs control over the failed device to access the failed device when the determination is made that the failure has occurred in the failed device,

wherein the device control unit recognizes the prohibition of use of the failed device if the device control unit is unable to access the failed device.

28. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium on which a program is recorded, said program comprising:

determining, when a failure occurs in a device in one system and use of the failed device is prohibited, whether use of any other devices in the one system should be prohibited as a result of the failed device,

enabling a computer to ~~perform changing a state of~~ reset the failed device and any other devices that are determined to be prohibited from use in the one system, and notifying a second system, external to the first system, of the ~~prohibition of use~~ reset of the failed device and the other devices in the one system

wherein said second system is notified of the prohibition of use of the failed device and the other devices in the first system when said notification of said reset is received from said notification device.

29. (Previously Presented) A notification method, comprising:

determining a failure has occurred in a device and a use of the failed device is prohibited, the determination of the failure being made independent of a device control unit that performs control over the failed device;

prohibiting use of the failed device; and

instructing the device control unit that performs control over the failed device to access the failed device when the determination is made that the failure has occurred in the failed device,

the device control unit recognizing the prohibition of use of the failed device if the device control unit is unable to access the failed device.

30. (Currently Amended) A notification method, comprising:

prohibiting use of a failed device when a failure occurs in one system of an open system;

determining whether use of any other devices in the one system should be prohibited as a result of the failed device, and

~~changing a state of resetting~~ the failed device and any other devices that are determined to be prohibited from use, and notifying a second system, external to the one system, of the ~~prohibition of use~~ reset of the failed device and the other devices in the one system,

wherein said second system is notified of the prohibition of use of the failed device and the other devices in the first system when said notification of said reset is received from said notification device,

the failed device being one of an input/output bus, a display adapter, a display, a communication adapter, and a storage device.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) A notification apparatus, comprising:
means for determining a failure has occurred in a device and a use of the failed device is prohibited, the determination of the failure being made independent of a device control unit that performs control over the failed device;
prohibition means for prohibiting use of the failed device; and
notification means for instructing the device control unit that performs control over the failed device to access the failed device when said means for determining determines that the failure has occurred in the failed device;

wherein the device control unit recognizes the prohibition of use of the failed device if the device control unit is unable to access the failed device.

33. (Currently Amended) A notification apparatus, comprising:
prohibition means for prohibiting use of a failed device when a failure occurs
in one system;

confirmation means for determining whether use of any other devices in the
one system should be prohibited as a result of the failed device, and

notification means for changing a state of resetting the failed device and any
other devices that are determined to be prohibited from use in the one system, and notifying a
second system, external from the first system, of the prohibition of use reset of the failed
device and the other devices in the one system,

wherein said second system is notified of the prohibition of use of the failed
device and the other devices in the first system when said notification of said reset is received
from said notification device.

the failed device being one of an input/output bus, a display adapter, a display,
a communication adapter, and a storage device.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) A ~~transmission medium for transmitting to a computer a program~~ program stored on a computer readable medium or a propagated signal, said program having instructions for controlling a computer to perform the steps comprising:

determining a failure has occurred in a device and a use of the failed device is prohibited, the determination of the failure being made independent of a device control unit that performs control over the failed device;

~~enabling the computer to instruct~~ the device control unit that performs control over a failed device to access the failed device when the determination is made that the failure has occurred in the failed device,

wherein the device control unit recognizes the prohibition of use of the failed device if the device control unit is unable to access the failed device.

36. (Currently Amended) A ~~transmission medium for transmitting to a computer a program~~ program stored on a computer readable medium or a propagated signal, said program having instructions for controlling a computer to perform the steps comprising:

determining, when a failure occurs in a device in one system and use of the failed device is prohibited, whether use of any other devices in the one system should be prohibited as a result of the failed device,

~~enabling the computer to perform changing a state of~~ resetting the failed device and any other devices that are determined to be prohibited from use in the one system, and

notifying a second system, external to the one system, of the ~~prohibition of use~~ reset of the failed device and the other devices in the one system,

wherein said second system is notified of the prohibition of use of the failed device and the other devices in the first system when said notification of said reset is received from said notification device,

the failed device being one of an input/output bus, a display adapter, a display, a communication adapter, and a storage device.